

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /139 W

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R 071550Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2252

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 7055

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, SF

SUBJECT: GATT ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS: SOUTH AFRICA

REF: GENEVA 6016

1. WITH RESPECT SOUTH AFRICAN TARIFF WITHDRAWALS MENTIONED IN REFTEL, WE HAVE QUERIED LOCAL SOUTH AFRICA MISSION (LOWRY) WHETHER THEY WOULD BE PRESENTING AN OFFER LIST. LOWRY TODAY HAS ASKED WHAT TRADE COVERAGE UNITED STATES WILL CLAIM FOR THE THREE AFFECTED ITEMS. WE RESPONDED THAT WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET HEARD FROM WASHINGTON, SOUTH AFRICAN STATISTICS ALREADY SUPPLIED (AS POUCHED WASHINGTON PER PARA 2, REFTEL) WOULD SUGGEST U.S. WOULD HAVE AT LEAST A SUBSTANTIAL SUPPLIER INTEREST IN FIRST TWO ITEMS AND PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER/ INR INTEREST IN THE THIRD. WE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. COMPENSATION REQUEST NOT LIKELY TO BE TIED TO STRICT TRADE COVERAGE, AS QUALITY OF COMPENSATION MAY ALSO HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING.

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2. WE ASKED LOWRY WHETHER SOUTH AFRICA INTENDED OFFER A

REBINDING OF THE INPAIRED ITEMS AT SOME HIGHER RATE;
LOWRY SAID HE HAD NO INDICATION FROM PRETORIA THAT ANY
REBINDING WAS CONTEMPLATED. WE THEREFORE SAID THAT U.S.
REQUEST LIST MIGHT INVOLVE DEEP TARIFF CUT ON ITEMS OF
INTEREST TO US WHICH HAVE SAME TOTAL TRADE COVERAGE AS
IMPAIRED ITEMS OR, CONCEIVABLY, MORE MODEST TARIFF RE-
DUCTIONS ON ITEMS OF GREATER TRADE COVERAGE. WE SIMPLY
COULD NOT SAY WHICH APPROACH U.S. WOULD WISH TO TAKE AT
THIS POINT.

3. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT LOWRY IS NOW IN POSITION TO
TENDER COMPENSATION OFFERS. WOULD THEREFORE WELCOME
EARLY INDICATION FROM WASHINGTON ON HOW U.S. WISHES
PROCEED. CATTO

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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